

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed on January 7, 2004. Claims 1-6 and 8 are pending in the application with Claim 1 being in independent form. By the present Amendment, Claims 1, 4 and 5 have been amended.

In the Office Action, Claims 1-6 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,903,822 issued to Sekine et al. on May 11, 1999 ("Sekine et al.").

Applicants' believe that Claim 1 as presented in response to the previous Office Action overcame this rejection. Nonetheless, Applicants have further amended Claim 1 in a manner which is believed to better define Applicants' invention and to patentably distinguish Applicants' invention over the embodiments described and shown by Sekine et al. In particular, Claim 1 has been amended to further include the recitation "wherein the slot provides a gap between the plurality of antenna feeds."

Sekine et al. describes various embodiments of portable radio and telephone equipment for transmitting and receiving an electric wave. Sekine et al., however, does not disclose or suggest, or illustrate via the plurality of figures, a wireless terminal as recited by Applicants' Claim 1. In particular, Sekine et al. does not disclose or suggest a wireless terminal having the features as recited by Claim 1, including the feature of the wireless terminal having a ground conductor which has at least one uni-directional slot extending parallel to the longitudinal axis of the terminal, and the feature of the slot providing a gap between the plurality of antenna feeds, as recited by Applicants' Claim 1.

At best, Sekine et al. discloses in conjunction with Figures 25, 26, 68A and 68B wireless terminals (radio or telephone) having a uni-directional slot or notch 101, where

the slot or notch 101 extends parallel to the horizontal axis of the wireless terminals (not the longitudinal axis of the wireless terminals). The slot or notch 101 does not provide a gap between the plurality of antenna feeds. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and allowance of Claims 1-6 and 8 are respectfully requested.

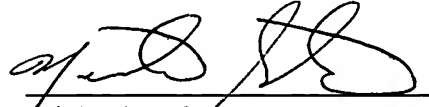
Claims 4 and 5 recite features which are not disclosed or suggested by Sekine et al. In particular, Claims 4 and 5 recite that the at least one uni-directional slot extending parallel to the longitudinal axis of the wireless terminal provides a tuning fork configuration having at least three tines at at least one end of the ground conductor, and that a first of the at least one uni-directional slot extending parallel to the longitudinal axis is parallel to a second of the at least one uni-directional slot. These features are not disclosed or suggested by Sekine et al. Therefore, Claims 4 and 5 are believed to contain patentable subject matter.

Additionally, Claims 2-6 and 8, which include Claims 4 and 5, depend from Claim 1, and therefore include the limitations of Claim 1. Accordingly, for the same reasons given for Claim 1, Claims 2-6 and 8 are believed to contain patentable subject matter. Hence, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and allowance of Claims 2-6 and 8 are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all claims presently pending in the application, namely, Claims 1-6 and 8, are believed to be in condition for allowance and patentably distinguishable over the art of record.

If the Examiner should have any questions concerning this communication or feels that an interview would be helpful, the Examiner is requested to call Jack D. Slobod, Esq., Intellectual Property Counsel, Philips Electronics North America, at 914-333-9606.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael A. Seaturro', written over a horizontal line.

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